# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC) SPECIAL MEETING

January 22, 2015

#### **MINUTES**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE. A RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) held its January 22, 2015 Special meeting at the SCAG Offices, in Los Angeles, California. The meeting was called to order by Hon. Carl Morehouse, President, San Buenaventura, District 47, at 1:04 p.m. There was a quorum.

### Members Present

Hon. Carl Morehouse, President District 47
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, 1st Vice-President District 1

(Via Videoconference)

Hon. Michele Martinez, Santa Ana, 2nd Vice-President District 16

(Via Videoconference)

Hon. Glen Becerra, Simi Valley,

Hon. Margaret Finlay, Duarte

District 35

Hon. Bill Jahn, Big Bear Lake

District 11

(Via Teleconference)

Hon. Tom LaBonge, Los Angeles District 51

Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-Officio

Lewis Group of Companies

Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.

Pechanga Band of Luiseno

Indians

(Via Teleconference)

Hon. Larry McCallon, Highland District 7

(Via Videoconference)

Hon. Barbara Messina, Alhambra District 34
Hon. Pam O'Connor, Santa Monica District 41

(Via Teleconference)

Hon. Julio Rodriguez, Perris District 69

(Via Teleconference)

Hon. Alan Wapner, Ontario SANBAG

(Via Teleconference)

## Members Not Present

Hon. Greg Pettis, Cathedral City, Imm. Past President

Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard

Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto

District 2

District 45

District 8

## **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Hon. Carl Morehouse, President, called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m., and asked all to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken at 1:05 p.m. It was determined that a quorum was present.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No Public Comments were given.

## **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no reprioritization of the agenda.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Hasan Ikhrata, Executive Director, announced that Sharon Neely, SCAG's Chief Deputy Executive Director, plans to retire on June 30, 2015. He noted that more details on Sharon's retirement event and a summary of her outstanding accomplishments are to follow.

Mr. Ikhrata provided a brief update of the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2012 RTP/SCS). He noted that the Draft 2016-2040 RTP/SCS will be presented at the October 1, 2015 Regional Council meeting, and that a detailed schedule will be distributed soon.

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hon. Carl Morehouse, Chair, provided a brief follow-up report on the Economic Summit and referenced the Los Angeles Times article which was written by three (3) governors.

Hon. Morehouse provided a recap of the City Manager's meeting which was held in Imperial County on January 14, 2015. He thanked Cheryl Viegas-Walker for hosting a successful meeting.

Hon. Morehouse announced that he will appoint the Nomination Committee at the February 5, 2015 meeting, and invited EAC members to apply.

#### **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Approval of Program Projects for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Administration Hybrid Partnership Between SCAG and Caltrans for the Counties of Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino

Basil Panas, CFO, requested that the EAC, acting on behalf of the Regional Council, approve Resolution No. 15-565-1 accepting the recommended list of selected projects from the Counties of Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino for purposes of facilitating the FTA Section 5310 Program, for transmittal to Caltrans.

A MOTION was made (Jahn) and SECONDED (Becerra) to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Morehouse, Becerra, Finlay, Jahn, Martinez, McCallon, Messina,

O'Connor, Rodriguez, Viegas-Walker, Wapner

NOES: None ABSTAIN: None

## 2. <u>Litigation Update</u>

Joann Africa, Chief Counsel, provided a verbal update on the *Center for Biological Diversity et al. v. the Department of Fish and Wildlife* case (Case No. S217763) which is currently pending before the California Supreme Court and involves the Newhall Ranch development. At its November 6, 2014 meeting, the Regional Council authorized staff to review and possibly join in an amicus effort which respect to one of the issues in the case (the issue of local agency discretion for assessing greenhouse gas impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)). Ms. Africa noted that SCAG did join in the filing of an amicus brief filed with the League of California Cities and the California Association of Counties in December 23, 2014. The amicus brief was subsequently accepted by the Supreme Court on January 7, 2015.

Ms. Africa also updated the EAC on the status of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)' litigation involving the CEQA challenge of its EIR for its 2011 RTP/SCS and the recent appellate court decision that went against SANDAG. She noted there SANDAG has since filed a Petition for Review before the California Supreme Court on January 5, 2015, and it has been suggested that transportation agencies support SANDAG by filing a letter of support with the Supreme Court urging them to accept SANDAG's Petition for Review. Since SCAG has previously supported SANDAG in its litigation, SCAG staff recommended that SCAG join in the filing a letter of support to the California Supreme Court supporting SANDAG's Petition for Review.

A MOTION was made (Wapner) and SECONDED (Finlay) to approve staff's recommendation to join in filing a letter of support in the SANDAG litigation. The motion was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Morehouse, Becerra, Finlay, Jahn, LaBonge, Martinez, McCallon,

Messina, O'Connor, Rodriguez, Viegas-Walker, Wapner

NOES: None ABSTAIN: None

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

## **Approval Items**

#### 3. <u>CivicSpark Sponsorship Agreement</u>

Basil Panas, CFO, provided a brief overview of the CivicSpark Sponsorship Agreement, and asked the EAC to approve, on behalf of the Regional Council, a Sponsorship Agreement in the total amount of \$75,000 for the Civic Spark Program.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the Sponsorship Agreement, which included the Sponsorship Type, its benefits, payment amount and the Grant of License language, Hon. Larry McCallon recommended approval by amending the Grant License language.

- 4. National Community Renaissance Symposium Sponsorship
- 5. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 15-007-C1, Advancing Implementation of Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS): Strategic Assessment of Implementation Strategies and Best Practices Options.

A MOTION was made (Jahn) and SECONDED (Finlay) to approve the staff recommendations with respect to all items on the Consent Calendar, except that EAC approves the Civic Spark Sponsorship Agreement (Item 3) with the following amendment to Section 3.a as follows:

From: "The Southern California Association of Governments is a proud Sponsor of the *Los Angeles Region* CivicSpark Team for the 2014-15 Service Year."

To: "The Southern California Association of Governments is a proud Sponsor of the *Southern California Region* CivicSpark Team for the 2014-15 Service Year."

The motion was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Morehouse, Becerra, Finlay, Jahn, LaBonge, Martinez, McCallon,

Messina, O'Connor, Rodriguez, Viegas-Walker, Wapner

NOES: None ABSTAIN: None

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)**

There were no future agenda items made.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Hasan Ikhrata, Executive Director, announced that on February 4, 2015, the Gateway Cities COG will be celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. He extended an invitation to the EAC officers and asked them to join him at the event.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The EAC meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Executive/Administration Committee will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2015 at the SCAG Los Angeles Office.

Lillian Harris-Neal, CMC Clerk of the Board